

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 72 without my signature.

While I support all efforts to ensure that English Learners attain English proficiency as rapidly as possible, this bill would appropriate \$20 million for supplemental instructional materials that is in addition to the \$30 million appropriation that was authorized a year ago. Despite being appropriated more than a year ago in the 2004-05 Budget Act, the funds are only now being apportioned to school districts this month, with the final apportionment to arrive in the spring of next year. Clearly, the additional \$20 million appropriated in this bill is premature. It would be more prudent to determine whether the materials school districts eventually purchase are, in fact, effective in helping students gain English language proficiency before authorizing an additional \$20 million.

For this reason, I cannot support the bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger